

GROWING DAHLIAS FROM SEED

From Seed to Stunning: Your Guide to Growing Gorgeous Untamed Dahlias

MATERIALS

REQUIRED

- Dahlia seeds
- Kitchen roll
- Compost
- Takeout containers or sandwich bags
- Seed trays/pots

RECOMMENDED

- Sunny window sill or artificial light source - LED or fluorescent grow lights
- Seed tray covers or high dome
- Seed-starting compost
- Heat mat for seedlings
- 10 cm (4") nursery pots
- Balanced organic fertiliser

REUSABLE ALTERNATIVES

Repurpose transparent resealable containers to maintain humidity.

Seed-Tray Alternatives: repurpose items like egg cartons, yogurt cups, or biodegradable pots

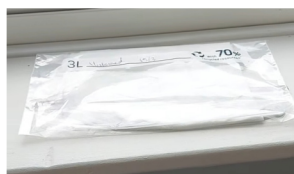
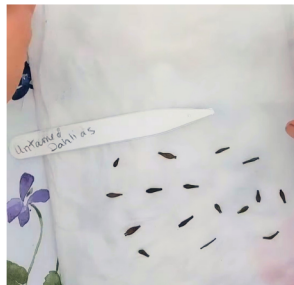
Energy Efficiency: Position seedlings in natural sunlight as much as possible instead of relying on grow lights.

PREPARATION

- Set up a warm, well-lit indoor space for seedlings. Use LED or fluorescent grow lights if natural light is insufficient.
- Ensure grow lights are positioned close to the seedlings to avoid weak growth.
- Start seeds indoors 4-8 weeks before the last frost date; direct-seeding outdoors is not recommended.

STARTING SEEDS

(KITCHEN ROLL METHOD)



- Wet 3-4 kitchen roll sheets, then squeeze out excess water to avoid over-saturation.
- Lay seeds on one side of the kitchen roll and fold the other side over to sandwich the seeds.
- Place the folded roll in a resealable transparent bag or takeout container to maintain humidity.
- Keep the tray in a warm spot (18°C to 21°C). A sunny window sill works well for us.
- Check daily after the third day for germination. Spray the roll with water if it starts to dry out.

HANDLING GERMINATED SEEDS



- Transfer germinated seeds to soil when a white root appears.
- If the root is stuck to the kitchen roll, carefully cut around it and plant the piece with the seed to avoid damage.



PLANTING IN SOIL

- Fill seed trays or pots with seed-starting compost.
- Make a small hole in each cell with a pencil and place the seed with the root downward and the top slightly visible.
- Cover the tray with a dome to maintain humidity. Remove the dome once seedlings develop true leaves.



CARING FOR SEEDLINGS

- Place seedlings in full sunlight. You may need to supplement with grow lights.
- Keep temperatures above 18°C (65°F) and soil evenly moist without overwatering. Heat mats may help roots establish.
- Pinch seedlings back to four sets of leaves, by cutting off the growing tip, once they develop five sets to encourage branching.



GROWING ON

- Keep seedlings indoors until all frost risk has passed.
- Harden off seedlings by placing them outside for a week in a spot with morning sun and afternoon shade.
- Bring seedlings inside if nighttime temperatures drop below 7°C (45°F).
- Transplant seedlings into their final positions once soil temperatures reach 10°C (50°F). You can plant seedlings close together, as close as 6 inches apart during their first year.



FERTILISING AND MAINTENANCE

- Apply a balanced organic fertiliser (e.g., 5-3-3) once seedlings are established. Fertilise again in July and August.
- Deadhead regularly to encourage continuous blooming throughout summer and autumn.
- By following these steps, your dahlias will thrive and produce beautiful blooms while forming tubers for future growth!



“We hope your seeds are a smashing success. If you have any questions, comments, or advice, please reach out!”

PAM & CLAIRE

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